

MAR 29 2004

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Suite 900  
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## Facsimile Cover Sheet

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| To: Commissioner for Patents for<br>Examiner Kevin T. Bates<br>Group Art Unit 2155   | Facsimile No.: 703/872-9306  |
| From: Rebecca Clayton<br>Legal Assistant to Stephen J. Walder, Jr.   | No. of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 17   |
| Message:<br><br>Enclosed herewith: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transmittal Document; and</li><li>• Response to Office Action.</li></ul>    |  |
| Re: Application No. 09/692,344<br>Attorney Docket No: AUS9-2000-0627-US1   |  |
| Date: Monday, March 29, 2004   |  |
| Please contact us at (972) 367-2001 if<br>you do not receive all pages<br>indicated above or experience any<br>difficulty in receiving this facsimile. | <i>This Facsimile is intended only for the use of the addressee<br/>and, if the addressee is a client or their agent, contains<br/>privileged and confidential information. If you are not the<br/>intended recipient of this facsimile, you have received this<br/>facsimile inadvertently and in error. Any review,<br/>dissemination, distribution, or copying is strictly prohibited.<br/>If you received this facsimile in error, please notify us by<br/>telephone and return the facsimile to us immediately.</i> |

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Beukema et al.**Serial No.: **09/692,344**Filed: **October 19, 2000**For: **Method and Apparatus to  
Perform Fabric Management**§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§Group Art Unit: **2155**Examiner: **Bates, Kevin T.**Attorney Docket No.: **AUS9-2000-0627-US1****35525**PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE  
CUSTOMER NUMBERCertificate of Transmission Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)I hereby certify this correspondence is being transmitted via  
facsimile to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, facsimile number (703) 872-9306  
on March 29, 2004.By: Rebecca Clayton

Rebecca Clayton

TRANSMITTAL DOCUMENTCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

ENCLOSED HEREWITH:

- Response to Office Action.

No fees are believed to be required. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Respectfully submitted,

Duke W. Yee

Duke W. Yee

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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

MAR 29 2004

OFFICIAL

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: Beukema et al.

Serial No.: 09/692,344

Filed: October 19, 2000

For: Method and Apparatus to  
Perform Fabric Management

§  
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§ Group Art Unit: 2155  
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§ Examiner: Bates, Kevin T.  
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§ Attorney Docket No.: AUS9-2000-0627-US1  
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facsimile to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
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9306, on March 29, 2004.

By: Rebecca Clayton

Rebecca Clayton

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

No fees are believed to be required. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

In response to the Office Action dated December 31, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.